

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION  
AGENDA NO. 12-11-20**

Date Published: November 15, 2012

For Work Week Commencing: November 19, 2012

Commission Meeting: November 20, 2012, 9:00 a.m.

General Introduction *This agenda is the Commission's agenda for the work week designated. In the latter part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://psc.mt.gov>.*

Place of Meetings *All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.*

Live webcast *Unless otherwise noted on this agenda, all Commission meetings held during regular business hours that are noticed on this agenda will be webcast live via the audio and video feed links on the PSC website at <http://psc.mt.gov> (go to "Agendas & Meetings" then "Audio/Video Archives"). The audio feeds of meetings are also archived at the same website location.*

Inquiries *General inquiries concerning this agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Kate Whitney at (406) 444-3056. She may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.*

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities *Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.*

**9:00 a.m. Weekly Scheduling** (Commission Conference Room – No Web Audio Feed)

**9:30 a.m. Business** (Bollinger Room)

**Public Comments**

**Action Items** All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. Approval of Commission Minutes (Aleisha)

Approval of the Commission Minutes for the week of November 12, 2012

**Work Sessions** All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated.

1. D2007.9.108, D2008.9.112, D2009.9.121, and D2010.9.92 – Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. – Application for Approval to Implement a Gas Cost Tracking Adjustment – Discuss and act on Final Order. (11/20/12)
2. D2012.10.108 – Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. – Application for authority for deferred accounting treatment for costs associated with the clean-up of the manufactured gas plant site located in Billings, MT. – Discuss and act on Final Order. (11/20/12)
3. D2012.3.24 – Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. – Petition for Certification of Eligible Renewable Resources and Community Renewable Energy Resources – Consider responses to MDU's request for an order in limine to limit the record to existing testimony and data responses, vacate the contested case hearing, and instruct MDU to submit final brief. (11/20/12)
4. N2012.1.1 – 2011 RPS Compliance – Discuss compliance status of competitive electric suppliers and public utilities for 2011 compliance year. (11/20/12)
5. D2008.8.95 – NorthWestern Energy – Public comments on implementation of carbon offset program at Dave Gates Generating Station – Consider and act upon, through a Notice of Commission Action, responses to Commission's "Notice of Opportunity to Comment" on carbon offset project implementation. (11/20/12)
6. D2012.1.3 – NorthWestern Energy – Standard avoided cost tariff updates (Schedules QF-1, CR-1, WI-1) – Discuss and act on staff recommendations. (11/20/12)

**Other Meetings****11/20/12 – Immediately following Commission business meeting – Blue Book committee meeting – Discuss draft revised copy of Blue Book (Commission Conference Room – no web audio feed)**

Weekly Scheduling, Review of Monthly Calendars, and Docket Status Updates (if requested by a Commissioner).

**Notice Items** All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda. Public comments on a noticed matter may also be submitted within the required time through the PSC's web-based comment form at <http://psc.mt.gov/Consumers/comments>. Comments should reference the docket number of the matter.

1. NorthWestern Corporation (NOR) D2012.11.114 (Eric)

On November 7, 2012, NOR filed an application seeking authority to issue over a two-year period through and including December 31, 2012, some or all of the following kinds of securities not to exceed in the aggregate \$850 million. The specific types of issuances are: (1) Equity securities of Applicant not to exceed \$250 million, including without limitation, common stock, preferred stock, convertible or unconvertible preferred securities and hybrid securities issuable directly or indirectly by Applicant; (2) Secured debt securities of Applicant, not to exceed \$250 million, including, without limitation: (i) One or more series of First Mortgage Bonds to be issued under Applicant's Montana mortgage; (ii) One or more series of First Mortgage Bonds to be issued under Applicant's South Dakota mortgage; (iii) Other secured debt securities; (3) Unsecured debt securities of Applicant, not to exceed \$350 million, including without limitation, subordinated or unsubordinated unsecured debentures, debt securities, notes, commercial paper or other evidences of unsecured indebtedness. The Applicant will use the proceeds to support state-regulated public utility assets, the refunding or repayment of its outstanding obligations and other general corporate purposes.

**Protective Orders – Notice Items** The Commission has received the following requests for protective order pursuant to ARM 38.2.5007. The Commission will rule on the requests no earlier than 10 days after the publication date of this agenda. Comments on the requests may be submitted at any time prior to ruling. Copies of these requests may be viewed on the Commission's web site at <http://psc.mt.gov>

**Protective Orders – Information Items** The Commission has issued the following protective orders. These orders may be challenged pursuant to ARM 38.2.5008. Copies of these orders may be viewed on the Commission's web site at <http://psc.mt.gov>

**Information Items** All items identified below are for information only.

**New Filings Received in Past Week**

D2012.11.116 - Qwest Corporation - Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC and Hypercube Telecom LLC - Application for Approval of the Adoption of the Wreline Interconnection Agreements between Neutral Tandem Inc. and Qwest Corporation d/b/a CenturyLink QC  
N2012.11.117 - Montana-Dakota Utilities Co - Request that the PSC authorize the accumulation of under and over collections of PSC and MCC taxes starting on October 1, 2012